Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph of the application with the following paragraph:

This application is related to United States Patent Application number 10/635,705 [[_____]], (attorney docket number NWISP041), filed the same day as this application, United States Patent Application number 10/635,744 [[_____]], (attorney docket number NWISP042), filed the same day as this application, United States Patent Application number 10/635,793 [[_____]], (attorney docket number NWISP043), filed the same day as this application, United States Patent Application number 10/602,280 [[_____]], entitled "Improving Bandwidth, Framing and Error Detection in Communications Between Multi-Processor Clusters of Multi-Cluster Computer Systems," filed June 23, 2003 (attorney docket number NWISP045), and to United States Patent Application numbers 10/157,384 and 10/156,893, both of which were filed on May 28, 2002. All of the foregoing applications are hereby incorporated by reference.

NWISP039: Application No. 10/635,884   2